



Division of Fire Safety
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Department of Public Safety

August 6, 2014

Lissa Stark, Town Administrator
Town of Winhall
P.O. Box 420
Bondville, VT 05340

Re: Variance Request- New Town Garage
64 Old Town Road, Winhall, VT
Site # 93071

Dear Ms. Stark:

I am in receipt of your variance request for an exemption from the requirement to install an automatic fire sprinkler system in the proposed new Town Garage. You indicate that there is no municipal water supply available; that no more than 4 employees will occupy the building; and that the cost of installing water storage, a fire pump and sprinkler system would be prohibitively costly.

You offer to install a full, automatic fire alarm system with emergency forces notification in lieu of the required sprinkler system.

Under the provisions of the amended 2012 Vermont Fire & Safety Code, Section 8, a variance may be granted when the applicant can demonstrate that an equal degree of safety is being provided through a safe alternative method.

The proposed 8800 square foot building replaces a fire damaged town garage, and will house town road maintenance equipment and related employee space.

Code Requirement: Section 903.2.9.4 of the 2012 International Building Code requires that all newly constructed buildings housing commercial vehicles with a fire area greater than 5000 square feet must be protected with an approved, automatic fire sprinkler system.

Your request for a variance is Granted with the following conditions:

1. The structure must be built of Type 5A, protected wood frame construction, in accordance with Section 602.5 of the 2012 International Building Code, with all bearing walls and roof assembly of one-hour, fire-resistive construction.
2. A full, automatic fire alarm system, with detection in all spaces, including attic, must be provided. Plans for the fire alarm system must be submitted, along with a fire alarm permit application, prior to any installation.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Martin".

Bruce Martin,
Regional Manager, Springfield

Cc: Regional Managers

Brian Johnson, Assistant State Fire Marshal